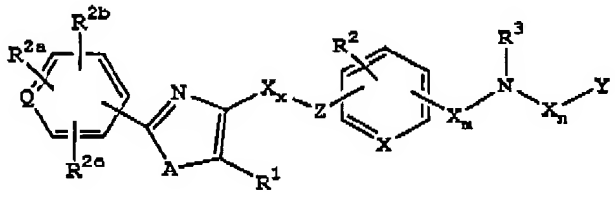
## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A compound which has the structure



wherein ~~x is 1, 2, 3 or 4; m is 1 or 2; n is 1 or 2;~~ $X_x$ is a carbon chain ~~of 1, 2, 3 or 4 carbon atoms~~ which is selected from alkylene of 1, 2, 3 or 4 carbon atoms, alkenylene of 2, 3 or 4 carbon atoms, allenyl or ~~alkylene~~ alkynylene of 2, 3 or 4 carbon atoms;

$X_m$ is a carbon chain ~~of 1 or 2 carbon atoms~~ which is selected from alkylene of 1 or 2 carbon atoms, alkenylene of 2 carbon atoms or alkynylene of 2 carbon atoms;

$X_n$ is a carbon chain ~~of 1 or 2 carbon atoms~~ which is selected from alkylene of 1 or 2 carbon atoms, alkenylene of 2 carbon atoms or alkynylene of 2 carbon atoms;

Q is C;

A is O;

Z is O;

$R^1$ is H or lower alkyl;

X is N;

$R^2$ is H, alkyl, alkoxy, halogen, amino or substituted amino;

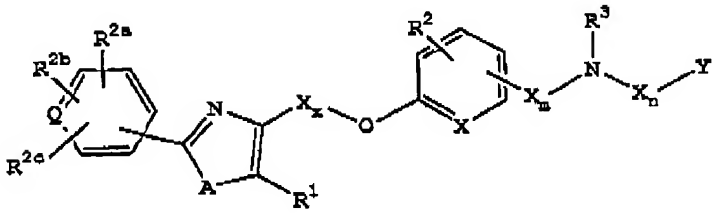
$R^{2a}$, $R^{2b}$ and $R^{2c}$ are the same or different and are selected from H or alkyl;

$R^3$ is alkyl, arylalkyl, alkoxyarylalkyl, arylalkoxyarylalkyl, or alkylaryloxyarylalkyl;

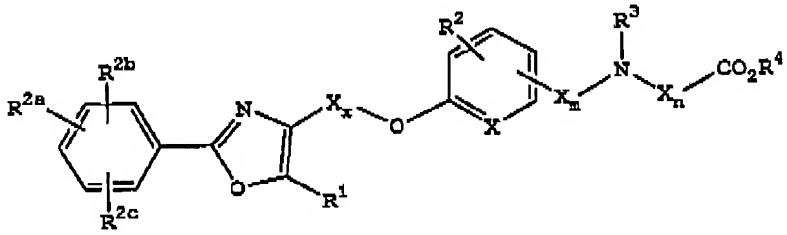
Y is $CO_2R^4$ where $R^4$ is H or alkyl, or a prodrug ester;

or stereoisomers thereof, a prodrug ester thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

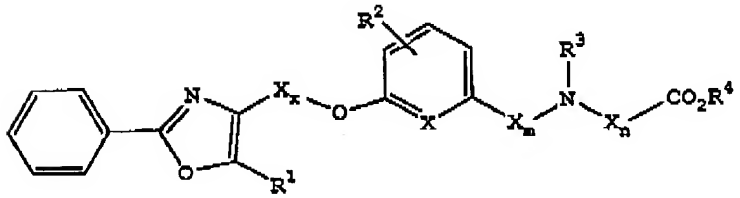
Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



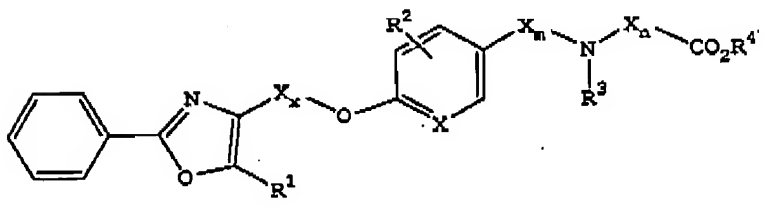
Claim 3. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having structure



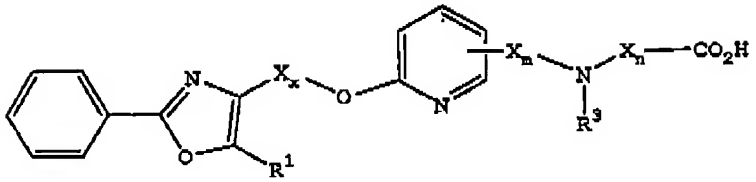
or



Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein ~~$(CH_2)_x$~~ $X_x$ is alkylene[[,]] ~~alkenylene, alkenyl, or alkynylene~~.

Claims 6 to 8. (Cancelled).

Claim 9. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



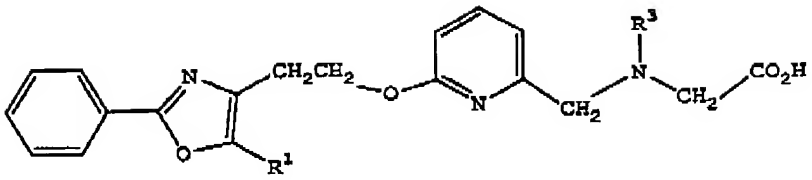
wherein $R^1$ is H or lower alkyl; and
$R^3$ is alkyl, arylalkyl, alkoxyarylalkyl, arylalkoxyarylalkyl or alkylaryloxyarylalkyl.

Claim 10. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein $X_x$ is $CH_2$, $(CH_2)_2$, $(CH_2)_3$, or $-C(CH_3)_2-$, $X_m$ is $CH_2$, or $-CH(R_a)-$ where $R_a$ is alkyl or alkenyl, $X_n$ is $CH_2$, $R^1$ is lower alkyl, $R^2$ is H, $R^{2a}$ is H, $R^4$ is H, and $R^3$ is aryloxyarylalkyl, arylalkyl, or alkoxyarylalkyl, which may be optionally substituted.

Claims 11 and 12. (Cancelled).

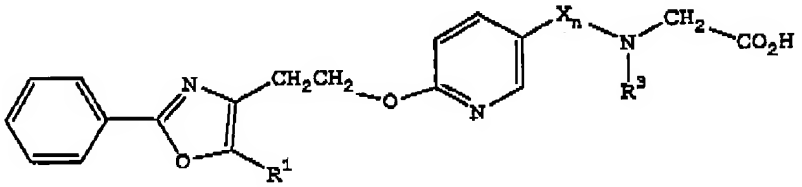
Claim 13. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 wherein $X_x$ is $CH_2CH_2$, $X_m$ is $CH_2$ and $X_n$ is $CH_2$.

Claim 14. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



wherein $R^1$ is H or lower alkyl; and $R^3$ is alkyl, arylalkyl, alkoxyarylalkyl, arylalkoxyarylalkyl or alkylaryloxyarylalkyl.

Claim 15. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure



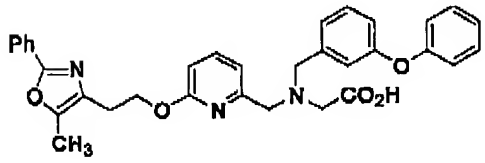
where $X_n$ is $CH_2$ or  ;

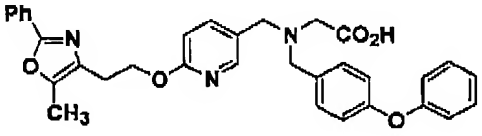
$R^1$ is H or lower alkyl; and

$R^3$ is alkyl, arylalkyl, alkoxyarylalkyl, arylalkoxyarylalkyl or alkylaryloxyarylalkyl.

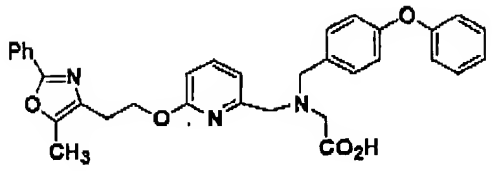
Claim 16. (Cancelled).

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) The compound as defined in Claim 1 having the structure





or



Claims 18 to 32. (Cancelled).

Claim 33. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as defined in Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) A method for lowering blood glucose levels or for treating diabetes or for treating an early malignant disease, a malignant disease, or a dysplastic disease, which comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1.

Claim 35. (Original) A method for treating diabetes which comprises administering to a patient in need of treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound as defined in Claim 1.

Claims 36 to 54. (Cancelled).